

Application No.: 09/913,635

Docket No.: 209565-81763

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) The brake pad as claimed in claim 31, wherein the brake pad includes a carrier plate and a friction lining applied thereto.

Claims 20-27 (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) The brake pad of claim 31, wherein at least one of said first, second, and third retaining springs ~~one of the two spring elements and the third spring element~~ are configured in the shape of a closed wire ring as a sheet metal spring or a wire spring.

29. (Currently amended) The brake pad of claim 31, further comprising a retaining plate configured as a damping plate and at least one retaining member configured as a hook or eyelet for embracing one of the first, second, and third retaining springs, spring element wherein said at least one retaining member is attached to said retaining plate and to at least one of said first, second, and third retaining springs.

Claim 30 (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) Brake pad and brake piston assembly, comprising:

a brake piston having an axis and an outer surface encircled by a circumferential groove,

a first, second, and third retaining spring coupled to a brake pad, wherein said first, second, and third retaining springs engage[[s]] said circumferential [[piston]] groove, thereby detachably coupling the brake pad to the piston,

wherein the first and second retaining springs ~~includes two spring elements~~ are arranged opposite each other with respect to the piston axis, and wherein said first and second retaining springs each include each spring element having a [[first]] spring portion which applies an axial spring force at a contact point location on opposite sides of the piston to urge the brake pad against the piston, and wherein said third retaining spring includes a third spring element

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~~arranged between said two spring elements having a~~ [[second]] spring portion which applies a radial spring force to the brake pad at one contact point location in a vertical direction which is generally perpendicular to the piston axis,

wherein said first, second and third retaining springs are separate from one another.

Claims 32-36 (Canceled)